## NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT

## Office of Public Information

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2010

## Chief Justice Mike Heavican Appoints Review Committee on the Status of Adult Guardianships and Conservatorships in Nebraska Court System

Chief Justice Mike Heavican, in conjunction with Senator Brad Ashford, Chair of the Unicameral's Judiciary Committee, and Mike Kinney, President of the Nebraska State Bar Association, has appointed members to serve on a committee to review the status of adult guardianships and conservatorships in Nebraska's courts. The charge of the committee will be to review and recommend any needed changes to Nebraska's guardianship and conservatorship statutes, and to review court rules and best practices in guardianship and conservatorship cases in Nebraska courts, including best practices for judges, lawyers, and guardians and conservators. The committee will also review the need for any additional resources which might be necessary in order to implement any proposed changes.

The members of the committee are:

Judge Susan Bazis, Presiding Judge of the Douglas County Court

Judge Curtis Evans, York County Court

Judge Todd Hutton, Sarpy County Court

Senator John Wightman of Lexington

Senator Brenda Council of Omaha

Senator Colby Coash of Lincoln

Senator John Nelson of Omaha

John McHenry, Lincoln attorney

Terry MacNamara, Omaha attorney

Kathy Jones, Clerk Magistrate of Red Willow County

Janet Labenz, accountant in Lincoln

Mary Newman, Deputy Chief of Police, Omaha Police Department

John Dougherty, head of the probate division of the Douglas County Court; and

Sam Brower, Omaha attorney.

Senator Brad Ashford of Omaha and Court Administrator Janice Walker will serve as ex officio members and Senator Wightman will serve as chair of the Committee.

A first meeting date has not yet been set.

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